Claims

What is Claimed is:

 A cathodic electrodeposition coating composition which produces substantially pinhole-free coatings on galvanized surfaces,

said composition comprising 0.2 to 8% by weight, based on the weight of resin solids in the composition, of at least one 5- or 6-membered cyclic imide having a (cyclo)alkyl or (cyclo)alkenyl residue comprising 4 to 12 carbon atoms on the imide nitrogen.

2. The cathodic electrodeposition coating composition of claim 1, wherein the cyclic imide is the reaction product of a cyclic carboxylic anhydride and an aliphatic amine.

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- 3. The cathodic electrodeposition coating composition of claim 2, wherein the cyclic imide is the reaction product of dodecenylsuccinic anhydride with 2-ethylhexylamine.
- 4. A process for the cathodic electrodeposition coating of a substrate having an at least partially galvanized surface, the process comprising the step of applying a cathodic electrodeposition coating composition to the at least partially galvanized surface, wherein the coating composition comprises 0.2 to 8% by weight, based on the weight of resin solids in the composition, of at least one 5- or 6-membered cyclic imide having a (cyclo)alkyl or (cyclo)alkenyl residue comprising 4 to 12 carbon atoms on the imide nitrogen.
 - 5. The process of claim 4, wherein the substrate having an at least partially galvanized surface is selected from the group consisting of metallic substrates and composite constructions thereof.

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- 6. The process of claim 5, wherein the substrate comprises galvanized steel.
- 7. The process of claim 6, wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of automotive bodies and automotive body parts.
 - 8. A process for making substantially pinhole-free coatings on substrates having an at least partially galvanized surface, the process comprising applying a cathodic electrodeposition coating composition to the at least partially galvanized surface, wherein the coating composition comprises 0.2 to 8% by weight, based on the weight of resin solids in the composition, of at least one 5- or 6-membered cyclic imide having a (cyclo)alkyl or (cyclo)alkenyl residue comprising 4 to 12 carbon atoms on the imide nitrogen.
 - 9. A substrate coated with the cathodic electrodepositon coating composition according to the process of claim 4.
- 20 10. The substrate of claim 9 selected from the group consisting of automotive bodies and automotive body parts.